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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : LAKHBIR SINGH

EXAMINER: J. REAMER

SERIAL NO : 09/043,358

ART UNIT : 1614

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FOR : ISOBUTYLGABA AND ITS DERIVATIVES FOR THE TREATMENT  
OF PAIN#7  
4/21/99  
J. Reamer

## AMENDMENT

April 16, 1999

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 29, 1999, please enter the following.

## REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application and are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Field et al. or Mellick et al. The Examiner states that each of the references teaches the use of the instant compounds for the management of pain in humans.

Field et al. is not available as a reference against the instant invention as it was published after the priority date of July 24, 1996, of the instant application. The last page of the reference provided by the Examiner shows that the manuscript was received on November 4, 1996, which is after the priority date accorded the instant application. Applicant requests the removal of Field et al. as a grounds of rejection of Claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).